

WHAT CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording medium loading apparatus capable of loading a disc-shaped recording medium, comprising:

a carrier ² for transferring the disc-shaped recording medium between a first position to insert/remove the disc-shaped recording medium and a second position to perform a reproducing and/or recording process;

a holding device ^{15, 20} installed on the carrier for holding an outer circumference of the disc-shaped recording medium; and

wherein the holding device comprises a fixing portion ¹⁵ fixed to the carrier and tongue pieces ^{22, 20} with elastic property ^{ies} extending from the fixing portion and being contact with a front edge of the disc-shaped recording medium with respect to an insertion direction by an actuating force. (see Fig 3, col 4, lines 53-57)

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tongues pieces gradually close to the disc-shaped recording medium with respect to the insertion direction and then contact with the outer circumference of the disc-shaped recording medium.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a disc detecting switch installed opposite to the tongue pieces for detecting the loading of the disc-shaped recording medium by means of being contact with the outer circumference of the disc-shaped recording medium.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein a disc detecting switch installed opposite to the tongue pieces for detecting the loading of the disc-shaped recording medium by means of being contact with the outer circumference of the disc-shaped recording medium.

5. A recording medium loading apparatus, comprising

a transferring mechanism for transferring a disc-shaped recording medium between an eject position and a loaded position;

a holder for holding the transferring mechanism;

5 a base having a turntable, and the turntable being capable of rotatably driving the disc-shaped recording medium in a status that the disc-shaped recording medium is loaded;

a driving mechanism for loading the disc-shaped recording medium on the turntable by driving the holder and the base to be relatively close; 9

10 a disc holding member installed on the transferring mechanism and the holder for engaging with the disc-shaped recording medium and then holding the disc-shaped recording medium to be transferred; and

15 a holding member driving device installed on the base, for engaging with the disc holding member when the disc-shaped recording medium is transferred accompanying with the holder and the base being relatively close, and for detaching the disc-shaped recording medium from the disc holding member when the disc-shaped recording medium is loaded onto the turntable. 13

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